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EXAMINER

LUK, LAWRENCE W

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2838

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/053,604

Applicant(s)

LIAO, SHENG HSIN

Examiner

Lawrence W Luk

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

.DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 4, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Meyer et al. (5,933,812).

As to claim 1, Meyer et al. disclose in figures 12, 13 and 14, a portable charger (215) comprising: a body (200) having a cavity (refer to column 4, lines 20-22) therein; a circuit section (203) arranged in the cavity and having a circuit board with a plurality of spring contacts (refer to column 12, lines 18-22), at least one input (figure 18, unit 11, 13) an output socket (figure 12, unit 211) and an output cord (figure 1) each connected to the circuit board (figure 12, unit 203) and a mounting stage connected to the body with the plurality of spring contacts extending into the mounting stage (refer to column 12, lines 16-25) wherein the output socket, the output cord and the plurality of spring contacts provide for simultaneous charging of a plurality of portable devices (refer to column 12, lines 26-35).

As to claim 4, Meyer et al. disclose in figure 12, the portable charger, the body has a groove thereon, the accommodation groove having open topside and having contacts connected to the circuit board (refer to col. 11, lines 48-53).

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As to claim 6, Meyer et al. disclose in figure 12, the circuit board (203) connected to an output end.

As to claim 7, Meyer et al. disclose in figure 1, the output cord (unlabeled) which is connected to the circuit (203) shown in figure 12.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

A. Claims 2, 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer et al. (5,933,812) in combination with Cho (6,490,186).

As to claim 2, Meyer et al. disclose the elements as claimed with the exception of the spool unit. Cho disclose in figure 3, column 4, lines 56-67 and column 6, lines 19-25, the body (10) contains a spool unit (50) therein and the output cord (3) wrapped around the spool unit.

It would have been obvious to person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the device of Meyer et al. and include a spool unit as taught by Cho for the purpose of storing and protecting the cord.

As to claim 5, Cho disclose in figure 7, a clip on outer surface of an electronic device.

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It would have been obvious to person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the device of Meyer et al. and attach a clip on its outer surface as taught by Cho for the purpose of attaching the device to a user.

As to claim 8, Meyer et al. do not disclose the plurality of lamps. However, Cho disclose in figure 6 and column 4, lines 50-55, that charging circuits are typically provided with indication lamps for status indication.

It would have been obvious to person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the device of Meyer et al. and include a plurality of indicators as claimed in order to provide status indication.

B. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer et al. (5,933,812) in combination with Sadler (6,290,534).

As to claim 3, Meyer et al. discloses the elements as claimed, except for the charger has a foldable mounting stage pivotally arranged thereon, the mounting stage being a hollow shell with contacts therein and connected to the circuit board.

Sadler disclose in column 3, lines 48-55, the charger has a foldable mounting stage (150) pivotally arranged (124) thereon, the mounting stage being a hollow shell (180) with contacts (166) therein and connected to the circuit board.

It would have been obvious to person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the device of Meyer et al. to include the charger has a foldable mounting stage pivotally arranged thereon as taught by Sadler for adjust the angle of the device.

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C. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer et al. (5,933,812) in combination with Tung et al. (6,528,969).

As to claims 10 and 11, Meyer et al. discloses the elements as claimed, except for an input end and output cord connected to the circuit board, the input end being connected to a plug, the plug being connected to a connector through an input cord.

Tung et al. disclose in figure 2, column 1, lines 30-37, an input end (25) and output cord (3) connected to the circuit board, the input end being connected to a plug (31), the plug being connected to a connector (32) through an input cord, in order to use charging device of many types.

It would have been obvious to person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the device of Meyer et al. to include an input end and output cord connected to the circuit board, the input end being connected to a plug, the plug being connected to a connector through an input cord as taught by Tung et al. for use to charging device of many types.

D. Claims 9, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer et al. (5,933,812) in combination with Huang (5,977,747).

As to claims 9, Meyer et al. discloses the elements as claimed, except for the portable charger, wherein the board is connected to a battery connector.

Huang disclose in column 2, lines 18-22, the portable charger, wherein the board (2) is connected to a battery connector (241).

It would have been obvious to person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the device of Meyer et al. to include the portable multi-function charger, wherein the board is connected to a battery connector as taught by Huang for the purpose of improving the utility of the charger.

As to claims 12 and 13, Meyer et al. discloses the elements as claimed, except for an input end and output cord connected to the circuit board; and a mounting stage connected to the body and the spring contacts extending into the mounting stage, the mounting stage being detachably assembled to an outer surface of the body.

Huang disclose in figure 2 & 3, an input end (23) and output cord (5) connected to the circuit board (2); and a mounting stage (3) connected to the body and the spring contacts extending into the mounting stage, the mounting stage (3) being integrally formed (detachably assembled) to an outer surface of the body (8).

It would have been obvious to person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the device of Meyer et al. to include an input end and output cord connected to the circuit board; and a mounting stage connected to the body and the spring contacts extending into the mounting stage, the mounting stage being integrally formed (detachably assembled) to an outer surface of the body as taught by Huang for the purpose of improving the utility of the charger.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 14 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The prior art of record fails to teach or reasonably suggest that the mounting chamber has

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connection tabs on both sides thereof and each of the connection tabs has a clamping section therein, the body has at least one clamping tooth on both sides thereof and resiliently engaged with the clamping section such that mounting chamber is adjustably arranged on the body. Claim 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent from including all of the limitations of the base claim.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lawrence Luk whose telephone number is (703)305-0617. The examiner can normally be reached on 7 a.m. to 5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on (703) 308-1680. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)305-7724 for regular communications and (703)305-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1782.

LWL
Oct 20, 2003

Lawrence Luk
examiner
10/20/03